



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 040679/1420

Applicant: Akira KONDOU et al.

Title: STEERING SHAFT FOR ENERGY ABSORBING STEERING  
COLUMN AND MANUFACTURING METHOD THEREOF

Serial No.: 10/023,795

Filed: December 21, 2001

Examiner: Fleming, Faye M.

Art Unit: 3616

RECEIVED  
OCT 14 2003  
GROUP 3600

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.111**

Mail Stop NON-FEE AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action dated June 6, 2003, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

Applicant has enclosed with this amendment a Petition for Extension of Time to make this response timely.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows:

10/09/2003 CNGUYEN 00000121 10023795

02 FC:1201

172.00 0P